

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Adams Plating Company
Lansing, Michigan

Proceedings Pursuant to
the Clean Air Act,
42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 et seq.

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FINDING OF VIOLATION

EPA-5-99-MI-38

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FINDING OF VIOLATION

The United States Environmental Protection Agency finds that Adams Plating Company ("Adams"), Lansing, Michigan, is in violation of Section 112 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7412. Specifically, Adams is in violation of the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Chromium Emissions from Hard and Decorative Chromium Electroplating and Chromium Anodizing Tanks, at 40 C.F.R. part 63, Subpart N as follows:

Regulatory Authority

- (1) The NESHAP for Chromium, at 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart N, applies to each chromium electroplating or chromium anodizing tank at facilities performing hard chromium electroplating, decorative electroplating, or chromium anodizing.
- (2) The owner or operator of an existing affected source must comply with the emission limitations in § 63.342 no later than 1 year after January 25, 1995, if the affected source is a decorative chromium electroplating tank. 40 C.F.R. § 63.343(a)(1).
- (3) The NESHAP for Chromium, at 40 C.F.R. § 63.342(d), requires each owner or operator of an existing, new or reconstructed affected source must control chromium emissions discharged to the atmosphere from that affected source by either: (1) not allowing the concentration of total chromium in the exhaust gas stream discharged to the atmosphere to exceed 0.01 mg/dscm (4.4×10^{-6} gr/dscf); or (2) if a chemical fume

suppressant containing a wetting agent is used, by not allowing the surface tension of the electroplating or anodizing bath contained within the affected source to exceed 45 dynes per centimeter (dynes/cm) (3.1×10^{-3} pound-force per foot [lb_f/ft]).

- (4) The owner or operator of an affected source must monitor the surface tension of the electroplating or anodizing bath. The surface tension must be monitored according to the following schedule: (A) The surface tension must be measured once every 4 hours during the operation of the tank with a stalagmometer or a tensiometer as specified in Method 306B, Appendix A of this part; (B) The time between monitoring can be increased if there have been no exceedances. The surface tension must be measured once every 4 hours of tank operation for the first 40 hours of tank operation after the compliance date. Once there are no exceedances during the 40 hours of tank operation, surface tension measurement may be conducted once every 8 hours of tank operation. Once there are no exceedances during 40 hours of tank operation, surface tension measurement may be conducted once every 40 hours of tank operation on an ongoing basis, until an exceedance occurs; (C) Once an exceedance occurs as indicated through surface tension monitoring schedule of once every 4 hours must be resumed. 40 C.F.R. § 63.343(c) (5) (ii).
- (5) 40 C.F.R. § 63.342(f) (3) (i) requires the owner or operator of an affected source to prepare an operation and maintenance plan to be implemented no later than the compliance date.
- (6) 40 C.F.R. § 63.342(f) (3) (i) (B) requires that the operation and maintenance plan incorporate work practice standards for that monitoring equipment, as identified in Table 1 of 40 C.F.R. § 63.342.
- (7) 40 C.F.R. § 63.342(f) (3) (i) (E) requires that the O & M plan must include a systematic procedure for identifying malfunctions of process equipment, process and control system monitoring equipment and for implementing corrective actions to address such malfunctions.
- (8) The owner or operator of each affected source must maintain records of the total process operating time of the affected source during the reporting period. 40 C.F.R. § 63.346(b) (11).

Factual Background

- (9) Adams owns and operates two (2) decorative chrome electroplating tanks at its 521 North Rosemary Street, Lansing, Michigan, Facility.
- (10) Adams's two (2) decorative chrome electroplating tanks are subject to the requirements at 40 C.F.R. § 63, Subpart N.
- (11) On or about January 25, 1995, Adams identified its two (2) chrome electroplating tanks as Tank # 1 and Tank #2.
- (12) Adams uses chemical fume suppressants and is subject to 45 dynes/cm. standard provided by 40 C.F.R. § 63.342 (d).
- (13) On or before May 18, 1998, Adams prepared and submitted an operation and maintenance (O & M) plan.
- (14) Adams' O & M plan does not include any reference to work standards for monitoring equipment.
- (15) Adams' O & M plan does not include any procedures for identifying malfunctions of process equipment, process and control system monitoring equipment, and implement corrective actions to address such malfunctions.
- (16) On May 6, 1999, under the Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, EPA required Adams to provide certain information in order for EPA to determine Adams's compliance with Clean Air Act. On May 27 and June 11, 1999, Adams submitted information in response to the Section 114 letter.
- (17) The information submitted by Adams indicates that Adams did not monitor the surface tension of tank # 1 & Tank # 2 prior to February 2, 1998.
- (18) The information submitted by Adams indicates that Adams did not keep records of the total processing time for tanks 1 & 2.

Violations

- (19) Adams failed to incorporate the work practice standards for the monitoring equipment in their Operation and Maintenance Plan, as identified in Table 1 of the Subpart N. This is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 63.342(f)(3)(i)(B).

- (20) Adams failed to include a systematic procedures to identifying malfunctions of process equipment, process and control system monitoring equipment and also failed to implement corrective actions to address such malfunctions. This is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 63.342(f)(3)(i)(E).
- (21) Adams failed to monitor the surface tension of the electroplating tanks 1 and 2 from January 25, 1996 to February 2, 1998. This is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 63.343(c)(5)(ii).
- (22) Adams failed to keep records of the total process operating time of the tanks 1 and 2 during the reporting period. This is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 63.346(b)(11).

9/20/99
Date

Margaret M. Guerriero, For
Acting Director
Air and Radiation Division

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Shanee Rucker, certify that I sent a Finding of Violation,
No. EPA-5-99-MI-38, by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested,
to:

Steve Adams, President
Adams Plating Company
521 North Rosemary Street
Lansing, Michigan 48917

I also certify that I sent copies of the Finding of Violation
by first class mail to:

Barbara Rosenbaum, Enforcement Section Supervisor
Air Quality Division
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 30473
Lansing, Michigan 48909

on the 21 day of September, 1999.

Shanee Rucker
Shanee Rucker, Secretary
AECAS, (MI/WI)
(312) 866-6086

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT NUMBER: P140 777 048